

**July and August 2018**

# SUMMER

**a time to reach  
your neighbours**

Matthew 22:39



**Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church**  
25 Main Avenue, Enfield EN1 1DJ  
[www.bhpurc.org.uk](http://www.bhpurc.org.uk)

# Who to contact

## Serving Elders

Diann Nicolaides	020 8292 1094	diann.nicolaides@bhpurc.org.uk
John Vyse	020 8367 0362	john.vyse@bhpurc.org.uk
Lynda Cook	07949 033 869	lynda.cook@bhpurc.org.uk
Martin Hamblin		martin.hamblin@bhpurc.org.uk
Robin Ward (Secretary)	07962 207 256	secretary@bhpurc.org.uk

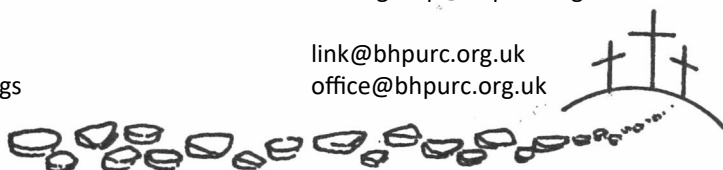
## Youth activities

Boys Brigade	bb@bhpurc.org.uk
Girls Brigade	gb@bhpurc.org.uk

## Other activities

Baby & Toddlers	toddlers@bhpurc.org.uk
Book Club	bookclub@bhpurc.org.uk
House Group	housegroup@bhpurc.org.uk

Weekly news sheet	link@bhpurc.org.uk
Hall & Room bookings	office@bhpurc.org.uk



*The Bush Hill Park URC Newsletter is published monthly on the last Sunday of the month. Please note that the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the whole fellowship or representative of church policy.*

## Safeguarding Statement

*Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and adults at risk).*

*We expect all of our leaders, volunteers and those who use our premises to share this commitment and value the support of those who worship here in achieving this. Park United Reformed Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and adults at risk).*

*Please visit <http://www.bhpurc.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding> for further information.*

**Regardless of how many candles** were on your last birthday cake, I'm sure you will remember things you learned from your favourite teacher in your favourite subject at school and in more recent times will have remembered sermons preached and services led by ministers and preachers you found inspiring and memorable. Many of those we remember will have taught us about life and faith with practical examples. God knows the value of the practical example – he didn't have to teach us how to sing, He just dressed a song in feathers and released it in the sky!

In Jesus, God gave us the supreme example. By joining in with things, Jesus showed us exactly how we should act. Both teacher and example, the embodiment of the lesson, making it come alive. Some lessons are easier to learn than others. Subjects like suffering, redemption, humility and forgiveness are always going to be difficult and Jesus knew that the best way for us to learn was to show us as well as tell us. In the Lectionary this year we are following Mark's Gospel. Mark's Gospel is very much about Jesus doing things. There are no long teaching passages in Mark like the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew.

There would not be much point in us learning about the Christian faith if we did not put what we had learned into practice. Living out, during the week and in the world, what we learn and do in church on Sundays. We won't always get it right because we're only human and therefore sometimes fallible

but we can give it our best shot. It's no good just talking the talk. If we want to bring the Good News of Jesus to the people of Enfield we also need to walk the walk.

On 14 July we welcome our new ministers Mark & Melanie to our pastorates here in Enfield. They are obviously two people who feel very strongly about living out their faith. I had a feeling after our first meeting with them that they will inspire us to live out our faith in new ways and help us to grow and develop in our faith, whatever stages we're at in our journeys.

We look forward to their ministries and to being inspired by them. May God bless them both as they start their ministry with us here in Enfield and may we all be receptive and enthusiastic to embrace the new things they will share with us.

Best wishes and a warm welcome to Mark & Melanie and may God bless them both.

Laura Marlow, on behalf of  
Lancaster Road URC

## Smile Lines

### Inner peace

If you can start the day without caffeine,  
If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,  
If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,  
If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it,  
If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,  
If you can take criticism and blame without resentment ,  
If you can conquer tension without medical help,  
If you can relax without wine,  
If you can sleep without the aid of drugs,  
...then you are probably the family dog!

### Untimely answered prayer

During the minister's sermon one Sunday, there was suddenly a loud whistle from one of the back pews. Jamie's mother was horrified. She glared him into silence and, after church, asked, 'Jamie, whatever made you do such a thing?'

Jamie explained: 'I've been asking God to teach me to whistle for ages, and suddenly, He did!'

### Hearing

A man went into a church and asked the minister to pray for his hearing. 'Ah, certainly,' said the minister, somewhat taken aback.

The man knelt, and the minister placed a hand carefully on each ear. In a loud voice he asked God to help the man with his hearing. 'I hope that will help,' he shouted to the man.

'Well, we won't know for a while,' the man replied softly, 'The hearing is not until next month.'



Meryl Streep

Tom Hanks

# The Post

BY STEVEN SPIELBERG

**MOVIE  
MOMENTS**

Nick and Carol Pollard from EthosMedia.org share thought-provoking reflections on the latest films.

## The Right Risk?

Is a risk-taker a hero or a fool? For many, it simply depends upon whether the risk paid-off. Steven Spielberg's film *The Post* could perhaps cause us to reconsider that assumption.

Set in the time of Richard Nixon's presidency of the USA, the story begins with the military analyst, Daniel Ellsberg, so disgusted by the government's deception about the under-resourcing of soldiers in the Vietnam war that he copies top-secret documents - the Pentagon Papers. Eventually these pass to the editor of the Washington Post, Ben Bradlee (Tom Hanks), who asks the paper's owner, Kay Graham (Meryl Streep), to approve their publication, despite a restraining order that could get her indicted for contempt of court. In nail-biting scenes, as the print room waits, she must decide whether to take the risk of fighting for freedom of the press.

Kay has much to lose; not only for herself but also for all women, because many doubt a woman can run a newspaper. If she takes the risk and it pays off she could be a hero, but if it doesn't then she would be the fool who damaged the advancement of women in the workplace. The fundamental question is whether a decision to take a risk should be calculated on the odds of success, or on a point of principle.



Spielberg builds the tension brilliantly. And with a device reminiscent of the red-coated girl in his award-winning *Schindler's List*, this film has its own little girl, Bradlee's daughter, starting her life as an entrepreneur. Perhaps, the value of risk-taking should not be assessed by looking back at consequences, but by looking forward into the type of world we can build together if we remain true to our strongly held beliefs.



**ETHOS  
MEDIA.org**

EthosMedia.org provides free resources to help people explore spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues through the latest feature films.

## Here is the News

### Service in the garden

On 10th June our Sunday Service was held in the garden with music provided by our Boys Brigade band (and friends). Many thanks to Rev Martin Legg for leading the service and to everyone involved, especially the band!



### Christian Aid Week

Thank you to everyone who supported Christian Aid Week. We raised £57 through the Christian Aid envelopes and £48.77 at the Big Brekkie.

### Boys Brigade Jumble Sale

The Boys Brigade annual Jumble Sale will be held on 7th July from 10am in the church hall, entrance 50p. If you can help setting up and sorting the jumble on Friday 6th from 7.30pm that would be much appreciated. Any help you can provide on the morning actually selling the items is also great. Feel free to just turn up and help or just go along and buy some things.

You are invited to the

Induction of

Revd Mark Meatcher

as minister of Bush Hill Park, Christ Church and  
Lancaster Road United Reformed Churches

and

Revd Melanie Smith

as minister of Palmers Green, Ponders End and  
Winchmore Hill United Reformed Churches

Saturday 14th July

2pm

Christ Church URC

Chase Side, Enfield, EN2 6NJ

The service will be followed by tea in the hall

Please RSVP to [mail@ccurc.org.uk](mailto:mail@ccurc.org.uk) or  
020 8482 4610 (answerphone enabled)

# God is able to use us to meet others' needs

We are all familiar with the story of the Feeding of the 5000 (Matthew 14:13-21). It reminds us that God is able to use us in meeting the needs of others. As Jesus says to the disciples: 'you give them something to eat' (16).

## ***We need to share God's compassion:***

Jesus responded to need, by showing 'compassion' (lit: gut reaction, v14) on the crowds. This isn't simply feeling sorry for others, but being ready to act on their behalf. It's being prepared to enter into their experience and see them as God sees them. You cannot demonstrate compassion at a distance!

## ***We need to share God's heart***

It is said that 'The buck stops here'! God wants us to take responsibility for those in need. The disciples tried to pass the buck, telling Jesus to 'send the crowds away' (15). Are we looking for God-given opportunities in church, work or our communities to demonstrate God's love to those who cross our path? It will be costly, involving our time, energy and money eg listening to a colleague, shopping for a neighbour or visiting a friend in hospital.

## ***We need to share what we have:***

This story reminds us of the challenges of meeting peoples' needs! The disciples only had five loaves and two fish to feed 5000+ people! It is not simply a matter of what we have, but what God can do with it. They offered what they had to Jesus and He multiplied it to feed the people, leaving 12 basketfuls of leftovers. Are we prepared to let God use what we have: our words, prayer and acts of love?

*'Helping one person might not change the world, but it could change the world for that one person.'*

Rev Paul Hardingham

# LANCASTER ROAD URC **STARSHIP DISCOVERY**

Holiday Club 2018  
13<sup>th</sup> AUGUST – 17<sup>th</sup> AUGUST  
9.30 – 12.30  
ARMFIELD ROAD CHURCH HALL EN2 0DH

• Games • Crafts • Story time • Singing • Watt Family Drama



**For children aged 5 to 11 years**

Registration  
Forms available  
from 1<sup>st</sup> July

Tel : Clare Locke 020 8367 0296  
email: [administrator@lancaster-road-urc.org.uk](mailto:administrator@lancaster-road-urc.org.uk)

## London's Calling



**Reverends Melanie Smith and Mark Meatcher  
Arriving in Enfield soon!**

Well, somebody asked if Melanie and I could write a little about ourselves so that you can begin to get to know us. What can we say?

I am relatively young, only having had 13 birthdays (I was born on 29 February), but have had over 21 years looking after property in different ways including several listed buildings and before becoming a minister was a Chartered Surveyor.

I trained for the ministry in Salisbury alongside Anglicans and Methodist students, being one of the last URC students to train in that way, and then spent nine months on placement in Petersfield, Hampshire, spending one day or more each week at Westminster College, Cambridge, theologically reflecting (I think that is what they call it...).

I have been a minister since 2009 and have worked in multi-church pastorates (no less than 3 at any point in time), as a hospice chaplain, and sat on

various synod committees and planning groups for church growth conferences and events, listed buildings, resources and pastoral committees. I have three children from my first marriage. Paul, my eldest son, is 30 and lives just north of Sydney in Australia in December. He recently made me feel even older by announcing that his wife, Jasmine, is intending to make me a Grandad by the end of the year as they are expecting their first child in November.

I have two other children from my first marriage, Andrew, who works in a law firm on the south coast and recently got engaged to Amanda, and Laura, who completed a degree in drama, music, singing in Chichester last year. Both of them are well and truly grown up, being 28 and 25 respectively.

Melanie had a career as a Chartered Accountant working in the public sector before training for the ministry at Westminster College, Cambridge. As she spent her childhood in Cambridgeshire and her first job after leaving school was in a bank opposite Kings College, the very idea of studying at Cambridge has felt absurd, but is a daily reminder that God's horizons are far broader than our own.

Melanie has been a minister since 2012, ordained at Crowstone St. George's United Reformed Church, in Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. She was the Chaplain to General Assembly Moderator Michael Jagessar during his term of office (2010 to 2012). Melanie was additionally called to minister at Westcliff URC and, with the church building at Westcliff URC being no longer fit for purpose, was happy to help the two congregations to unite last autumn as one new church, Kings Road URC.

We are both looking forward to building relationships with all of you, and working together to see what God might want to do in and through us in the days ahead.

*"...let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action..."*  
(1 John 3:18)

Your (new) minister,  
Mark



# Diary

## July and August

See also Prayer pages and back cover for regular activities

The diary is also online at [www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar](http://www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar)

<b>July</b> Sun 1st	10:00am 10:30am	Prayers in the church Communion with Paul Ashitey
Sat 7th	10:00am	Jumble Sale in the hall to raise funds for BB Camp, entrance 50p
Sun 8th	10:30am	Parade with Michaela Lawrence
Sat 14th	2:00pm	Induction of Rev Mark Meatcher and Melanie Smith as Christ Church URC
Sun 15th	10:30am	Worship with Revd Melanie Smith
Sun 22nd	10:30am	Worship with Barrie Thompson
Sun 29th	10:30am	Worship with Revd Mark Meatcher
<b>August</b> Sun 5th	10:00am 10:30am	Prayers in the church Communion with Christine Hall
Sun 12th	10:30am 6:00pm	Parade with Christine Hall Sunday Evening Reflection
Sun 19th	10:30am	Worship with Revd Mark Meatcher
Sun 16th	10:30am	Worship with Barrie Thompson

Next newsletter deadline:  
Sunday 12th August

All material for inclusion should be emailed to  
[newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk)

JULY 2018

The Lord will keep you from all harm  
— he will watch over your life;  
the Lord will watch over your coming and going  
both now and forevermore.

Psalm 121:7-8

## **Sunday 1st**

Thanks for carers and those helping people to stay in their own homes

## **Monday 2nd**

Margaret and family

## **Tuesday 3rd**

Missionaries in Europe

## **Wednesday 4th**

Alberta Road

## **Thursday 5th**

Staff and pupils at Chace Community School

## **Friday 6th**

Children and staff at Al-Shurooq School in Bethlehem who we support as a church

## **Saturday 7th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

## **Sunday 8th**

Thanks for those who entertain us, make us smile and show us other worlds

## **Monday 9th**

Valerie and family

## **Tuesday 10th**

Missionaries in Asia

## **Wednesday 11th**

Amberley Road

## **Thursday 12th**

Staff and pupils at Kingsmead School

**Friday 13th**

Those suffering from cancer and the charities who seek to find a cure

**Saturday 14th**

For Mark Meatcher and Melanie Smith, inducted today to the six North London Churches and their first services tomorrow

**Sunday 15th**

Give thanks for good health

**Monday 16th**

John and family

**Tuesday 17th**

Missionaries in the Americas

**Wednesday 18th**

Amberley Gardens

**Thursday 19th**

Staff and pupils at Latymer School

**Friday 20th**

Elijah, our sponsored child in Zambia

**Saturday 21st**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

**Sunday 22nd**

Give thanks for Sunshine and rain

**Monday 23rd**

Robin W and family

**Tuesday 24th**

Missionaries in Africa

**Wednesday 25th**

Bertram Road

**Thursday 26th**

Staff and pupils at Bishops Stopford's School

**Friday 27th**

Those caring for vulnerable adults and the charities which help

**Saturday 28th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

**Sunday 29th**

Give thanks for our Elders

**Monday 30th**

Alison and family

**Tuesday 31st**

Missionaries in Australasia



# Prayer Diary

AUGUST 2018

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,  
since as members of one body  
you were called to peace.  
And be thankful.

Colossians 3:15

## **Wednesday 1st**

Blakesware Gardens

## **Thursday 2nd**

For doctors

## **Friday 3rd**

Those suffering from Alzheimer's  
and the charities who seek to  
find a cure

## **Saturday 4th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the  
service tomorrow

## **Sunday 5th**

Thanks for our ambulance, medi-  
cal services and the air ambu-  
lance helping to save lives

## **Monday 6th**

Jane, Howard, Harriet and Tom

## **Tuesday 7th**

Enfield charity – N:Flame, Chris-  
tian outreach to youth in second-  
ary schools

## **Wednesday 8th**

Broadfields Avenue

## **Thursday 9th**

For the men & women of the Fire  
Brigade

## **Friday 10th**

Elijah, our sponsored child in  
Zambia

## **Saturday 11th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the  
service tomorrow

## **Sunday 12th**

Give thanks for answered prayers

**Monday 13th**

Andrew and family

**Tuesday 14th**

Enfield charity – Beyond Ourselves, working with children in Zambia

**Wednesday 15th**

Burleigh Road

**Thursday 16th**

For policemen & women

**Friday 17th**

Those without clean drinking water and the charities that seek to bring clean water and sanitation to everyone

**Saturday 18th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

**Sunday 19th**

Thanks for water, whether rain or from the turn of a tap

**Monday 20th**

Yvonne and family

**Tuesday 21st**

Enfield charity – Enfield Street Pastors, out on a Friday and Saturday night to care for, listen to and help people

**Wednesday 22nd**

Bury Street West

**Thursday 23rd**

For nurses

**Friday 24th**

Children and staff at Al-Shurooq School in Bethlehem who we support as a church

**Saturday 25th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

**Sunday 26th**

Thanks for those who faithfully attend our church services week by week

**Monday 27th**

Kath and family

**Tuesday 28th**

Enfield charity – Pathway, providing Christian education for children

**Wednesday 29th**

Bycullah Avenue

**Thursday 30th**

For paramedics

**Friday 31st**

Safety for men, women & children facing violence in the home from a spouse or parent



## Book Club



Lost for words by Stephanie Rutland

A very good read enjoyed by all of us. A quirky book, both amusing and touching.

The story is wound round a second-hand bookstore in York. The central character, Loveday, is a young, damaged girl with a secret past, who prefers books to people. Her family life was destroyed when she was ten, and books became her refuge.

However, three items are mysteriously 'donated' to the shop at different times, which

have an increasingly unsettling effect on her as they bring back unwanted memories of her past.

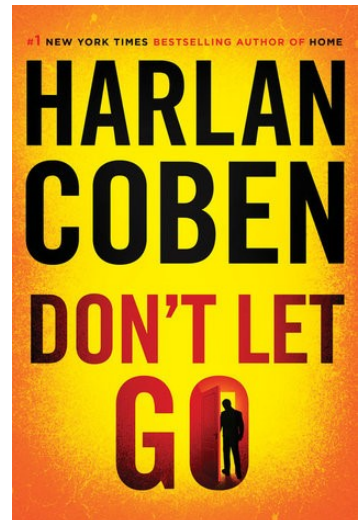
Somebody out there knows her secret, but who? How have these items, so long lost, come to light now? Who is leaving them in the shop - is it Nathan, whom she has grown to love and eventually trust - and if he does know then why didn't he just tell her?

As things move to a dramatic and moving climax, Loveday knows she has to face the problem in order to move on.

Lost for Words is well-written, with a humorous thread running through it.

The book chosen for our next read is 'Don't let go' by Harlan Coben

Yvonne Coe



# Rotas

	Door welcome	Reader	Tea & Coffee	Flowers	Sound room
July					
1st	Evelyn	Judith	Sylvia	Sylvia	Tony
8th	Judith		Ivy & Jane	Rob & Chris	Tony
15th	Alison	Anne	Valerie	Alison	Tony
22nd	Evelyn		Sylvia	Sylvia	
29th	Sylvia			Ivy	Robin H
August					
5th	Evelyn	Sue	Yvonne	Lisa	Robin H
12th		Bill	Ivy & Jane	Margaret	Robin H
19th	Alison	Anne		Ivy	Robin H
26th	Judith	Sue	Sylvia	Sylvia	Tony

If you can fill in the gaps above please put your name in the sheet on the wall in the lounge.

If you would like to do any of the above but feel you'd need a little guidance first please talk to Lisa, she'll make sure you find the right person. The sound room is easier than you think - go on, volunteer!



When it was Mrs Wilson's turn to do the flower arrangements, she always kept the vicar's hay fever in mind



## **We are given gifts for a good reason**

If we are not practical, it's good to know we can call on plumbers and electricians to sort out our house problems. Some people are gifted with practical knowledge and skills, and we could not do without them.

Other people are more creative and artistic. Such folk may not be able to build a house, but they can fill it with beauty and meaning through their music, painting, sculpture and books.

The Bible mentions Bezalel and Oholiab, who lived in Moses' time. Bezalel's specialty was working with metals; cutting and setting jewels and carving wood. Oholiab was an engraver, a designer and a weaver. Together, these two men had great skill, understanding and creativity, and made the Tabernacle the beautiful dwelling that it was.

Many years later, King Solomon commissioned Hiram, a native of Tyre, to make objects for the Temple out of gold, silver, bronze, iron, stone and wood. He also made coloured cloths and linen. Without Hiram's expertise, the magnificence of the Temple in Jerusalem would not have been realised or remembered!

Such people should encourage us as we seek to discover God's plan for our lives. We, too, are called to be faithful in serving God through using whatever particular gifts He has given us. Faithful obedience is what matters, not whether or not we end up in a position of responsibility, or in a quiet backwater. 'Success' for a Christian is not fame, but a deeper walk, and more fruitful walk, with God.

In fact, the majority of Christians are called to serve God without fame or recognition. Our aim should be to simply love God and to express this in the service of others, with whatever skill or gift we have been given.

If we give ourselves to God, He will prepare us and use us in the way that best suits our gifts and personalities. We might not have the special skills of Bezalel, Oholiab and Hiram, but there is always something we can do for God. Let's seek out God's gifts and use them for His glory.

Lester Amann

# What does it mean to be the church of God?

Melanie and I attended the first ever URC Ministers Gathering in Staffordshire at the end of April/beginning of May this year alongside over 300 other URC ministers.

It was a time of refreshing for many, and we came away feeling much more enthused about the state of the URC than the picture we usually get painted for us of what life in the URC is like today.

It reminded me of an article that I wrote a few years ago now when I last moved pastorate, entitled “The Challenge of Change” (an article that reflects a little on some of my early experiences of church life as a minister that is available online, although it was originally printed in Ministry Today: <https://www.ministrytoday.org.uk/magazine/issues/60/462/>).

My reflections in my writing then, over four years ago now, still seem to be valid when thinking about our churches:-

- The congregations are often in a different place to the community around them
- There is still a desire in people to look for ‘God’
- People have questions that they want answered

But also, in the few years since I wrote that article, change seems to be increasing, not decreasing, and I wonder whether our ability as “church/es” to cope with change is improving or not?

So, what was it about the ministers gathering that was helpful?

Do you know what?

For me, it was the fact that there was NO BUSINESS.

We came together and worshipped together, studied the bible together, heard preaching together, and shared time together...but not once was there the mention of any business needing to be done.

Is there a message there for us as churches moving forward?

Our church meetings so often seem to be business meetings, when actually God is probably wanting us to turn to worshipping, rather than working.

There is the problem of safeguarding, rotas, Young church, GDPR (sorry!) and many other things (who is going to open the church or hall for that user that needs it open first thing on Wednesday?) and many people seem to be rushing around just trying to keep the show on the road (whose show, I wonder?)

The ministers gathering enabled us all to stop, relax and love one another and love God...we didn't need to do anything.

Is the change that we need in order to really be the church one that is staring us in the face – one of needing to come back to Jesus, fall in love again and simply do what Jesus asks us to do?

St Augustine wrote that we should “Love God and do as we please” (if we love God, what we please to do will be to please God) and I wonder whether

we have made church out to be something it was never meant to be, or to become?

So, for you today, might you think a little about what being the church means to you...and how that affects your relationship with God?

Rev Mark Meatcher



*Judith's suspicion was confirmed – it was  
a wine gum*

## Can you find 30 books of the Bible hidden in this passage? - The answers (see June's newsletter for plain text)

This is a **most remarkable** puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, **keeping** him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much that he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his **John-**boat. Another friend studied it while playing his **banjo**. **Elaine** Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it, she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column.

Another friend **judges** the **job** of solving this puzzle so involving that **she brews** a cup of tea to help her nerves. **There** will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a **fact**. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a **jam**, **especially** since the books are not necessarily capitalised. **Truthfully from answers** we get, we are forced to admit **it usually** takes a minister or scholar to see some of them **at the worst**. Research has shown that something in our **genes is** responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in these paragraphs. During a recent fundraising event, which features this puzzle, the Alpha Delta **Phil-Lemonade** booth set a new sales record.

The local paper, the **Chronicle**, surveyed over 50 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As **Daniel Humana** **humbly** puts it, "the books are all right here in plain view, hidden from sight". **Those** able to find all of them will hear great **lamentations** from those who have to be shown. One **revelation** that may help is that books **Timothy** and **Samuel** appear without their **numbers**. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are **normal**. **A chipper** attitude will help you **compete** really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mass **exodus**, there really are 30 books of the Bible **lurking** somewhere in these paragraphs waiting to be found.

# Prayer

## **Mysterious God, what are you doing?**

Mysterious God, what are you doing?  
We come to you for guidance and advice,  
and you lead us far from  
wWhere we desire to go!

Mysterious God, what are you doing?  
We ask you for signs of you presence and plans,  
and you send us messages we find hard to accept.

Mysterious God, what are you doing?  
You are using your power of love to help us,  
your grace and mercy to lift us up.

Mysterious God, from time beyond time,  
Through ways and words we do not understand,  
you have led us  
    from darkness to light,  
    from trouble to peace,  
    from despair to hope.

May we embrace the mysteries of your way,  
As we seek to follow and serve you.

*By Simon Peters*

From the URC prayer handbook 2016 for 10th July looking at Amos 7:7-17

Ed: If you have a prayer you would like put in the newsletter instead (or indeed as well as...) do email it to [newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk). If you want it in a particular month make sure you meet the deadline for that month, usually the second Sunday of the month. Thanks.

# Raise funds for

Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church

every time you  
shop online

Find us on easyfundraising to start:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bhpurc/>



Shop with over 3,300 online stores

amazon.co.uk

John Lewis

ebay

M&S



Booking.com

Boden



DEBENHAMS



Viking

Sainsbury's

SCREWFIX

JUST EAT

moonpig

ASOS  
discover fashion online



£ £20 Million raised

👤 1.2 Million users

💖 100,000 causes

## Wordsearch

It is easy to understand the popularity of Mary Magdalene over the centuries: she is the patron saint of repentant sinners, and so represents all of us. We honour her on the 22nd of July.

Jesus drove seven demons from Mary, who came from near Tiberius in Galilee. Mary is thought to have been the woman who anointed Christ's feet in the house of Simon (Luke 7:37). She certainly followed Jesus to the bitter end – from Galilee to Jerusalem. Mary was present during the crucifixion, standing heart-broken at the foot of the cross. Her love for Jesus did not end there, for she went to the tomb to anoint his body on the Sunday morning.

Such faithful, humble devotion was richly repaid: she was the first person to whom the Risen Lord appeared on Easter Sunday morning. She thought He was the gardener at first.

Mary Magdalene's feast has been kept in the West since the 8th century. England has 187 ancient churches dedicated to her, as well as a College in both Oxford and Cambridge.

mary	magdalene
patron	saint
repentant	sinners
seven	demons
galilee	tiberius
anointed	feet
simon	crucifixion
jerusalem	tomb
anoint	body
easter	appeared
gardener	feast

D	R	A	T	A	R	E	S	M	S	Y	T	E
S	P	E	R	E	T	S	A	E	I	D	C	D
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L	L	A	P	P	E	A	R	E	D	M	S	A
A	F	G	O	C	I	O	T	J	B	N	N	S
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## Other local church activities

### July

Date	Time	Activity	Location
1st	3pm	Tea and worship in the hall	Methodist
4th	2pm	Wednesday Fellowship <i>Bring and Buy</i>	Methodist
16th	2:15pm	Friendship Club The Last Night of the Proms - Ann Luciano	Christ Church
18th	2pm	Wednesday Fellowship <i>Outing</i>	Methodist
26th	10.30am	Community coffee morning	Methodist

### August

Date	Time	Activity	Location
5th	3pm	Tea and worship in the hall	Methodist
5th	4pm	Messy Church	Lancaster Road
20th	2:15pm	Friendship Club <i>Summer tea - Pamela Fisher</i>	Christ Church
30th	10.30am	Community coffee morning	Methodist



## Other local church activities

### Weekly

Day	Time	Activity	Location
Sun	6.30pm	Service (1st of the month is Café style, 4th of the month is Contemporary with the band)	Lancaster Road
Mon	10am	Ladies Bible Study	Living Room
	7.30pm	English Conversation Club	Living Room
	7.45pm	Prayer at Betty's (Fortnightly)	Methodist
Tues	10am	Tots and Toys	Gospel Hall
	1.30pm	Open House (Coffee and Chat)	Living Room
Wed	9.45am	Bible Study (Fortnightly)	Lancaster Road
Thurs	1pm	Back to Life (Support Group / Board Games) starts with lunch	Living Room
Fri	10am	Shoppers Coffee Morning	Lancaster Road
	4pm	EPIC (Club for kids in years 3-6)	Gospel Hall
Sat	9am	Breakfast Club (2nd and 4th of the month)	Christ Church



*They had been promised a Celebrity  
Guest Preacher*

# Weekly Activities

<b>Monday</b>	6.15pm	Boys' Brigade Junior Section
	7.30pm	Boys' Brigade (Company Section)
	8.00pm	Book Club (Once a month, see inside for date)
<b>Tuesday</b>	8.00pm	House group (2nd & 4th Tuesday)
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.30am	Baby & Toddler Group
	6.15pm	Girls' Brigade
	8.00pm	New Songs (1st Wednesday)
<b>Thursday</b>	7.30pm	Boys' Brigade Company Section circuit training (when advised)
<b>Friday</b>	9.15am	Prayers in the Hall, open from 9 for a chat first
	9.30am	Baby & Toddler Group
	6.00pm	Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys
<b>Sunday</b>	10.00am	Prayers (1st Sunday)
	10.30am	Worship with groups for children and young people (Communion 1st Sunday)
	6.00pm	Sunday Evening Reflection (2nd Sunday)

